

# 2018 Pinot Gris

Willamette Valley, Oregon



## Winemakers Notes

The nose is sweet and floral with notes of orange blossom, vanilla, honeysuckle and graham crackers. Juicy exotic fruits are adding to the taste with favors of lemon and passion fruit then lingers with white pear and finishes with a crisp citrusy, mineral character. Very mouthwatering, it is the perfect summer time entertainer.

## Technical Notes

Harvest: 9/29/2018  
Brix at Harvest: 20.9°  
pH: 3.28  
Alcohol: 13.1%  
Residual Sugar: 3 g/L  
Grapes: 98% Pinot Gris, 2% Gewurztraminer

## The Vintage

Not as hot as the past four, not as frenzied as the past four, but just as good as the past four. 2018 marks the fifth consecutive favorable vintage for the Willamette Valley, supported by perfect ripening in October that allowed for a slow and focused harvest. After a suitably wet winter, the spring and summer of 2018 rolled around into what has been regarded as the driest summer period in a number of years. After a later than usual bud-break, bloom was followed by high temperatures not as severe as they had been in the previous three vintages. While not extremely hot, the consistent heat and lack of rain led to early veraison and quick ripening of the fruit. Just as we were preparing for another fast and early harvest, cooler fall weather arrived, bringing with it a welcome dose of moisture to the valley. This provided the vines with the perfect segue from high sugars into lush phenolic ripeness backed by gentle acidity. The cooler month of October allowed us to gradually harvest each block, resulting in a giving vintage packing perfect fruit profiles in the wines.

## The Soléna Story

After successful careers in the Oregon wine industry, the husband and wife team of Laurent Montalieu and Danielle Andrus Montalieu purchased an 80-acre estate to commemorate their marriage in 2000. In May 2002, they launched Soléna by bottling their first vintage of Domaine Danielle Laurent Pinot Noir and, shortly thereafter, opening a tasting room in Carlton. Soléna is the combination of the French and Spanish words soleil and luna, celebrating the sun and the moon, and the name that Laurent and Danielle gave to their daughter.

Soléna Estate began as a way to explore winemaking with other varietals grown in neighboring appellations while the family's young Domaine Danielle Laurent vineyard in the Yamhill-Carlton AVA matured. In May 2007, Danielle and Laurent added the spectacular Hyland Vineyard in the McMinnville AVA to their estate vineyard holdings. Today Laurent and Danielle are producing world-class Pinot Noir and Chardonnay from their estate vineyards.

Celebrate Friends, Family, and Life!

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